Development of tourism in Gujarat

173. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of places in Gujarat which are likely to be developed as tourist centres during the Seventh Plan period; and

(b) if so, what is the amount or funds allocated for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) (a) The Department of Tourism in consultation with the Government of Gujarat has identified 24 places of tourist importance. These centres will be developed in a phased manner with the combined resources of the State, the Centre and the private sector. Ahmedpur-Mandvi, Chorwad, Nargol, Ukai, Gir sanctuary, Ubhrat, Dakor, Ambhaji, Palitana, Jumagarfi, Lothal, Porbandar and Dwarka are some of the centres selected by the State Government, to be developed during the 7th Five Year Plan.

(h) For various tourism development activities in Gujarat, the Planning Commission has agreed to provide, in the state sector Rs. 425.00 lakhs in the 7th Five Year Plan period with an outlay of Rs. 67.00 lakhs for the current annifal plan.

Development of Tourism in Gujarat

174. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of tourists, both Indian and foreign, who visited Gujarat during the last three years, year-wise and its percentage to that with other States in the country;

(b) what measures Central Government propose to take to create more tourist accommodation in the State for promotion of tourism; and

(c) what are the details of tourism promotion measures which the Central Government propose to take in the State during the Seventh Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) State-wise statistics of foreign tourist arrivals are not available. However, as per the Foreign Tourist Survey 1982-83, 3.4 per cent of the foreign tourists spent at least a night in Gujarat during that year.

(b) The Central Government has initiated schemes for the construction of Yatri Niwases and Yatrikas for providing tourist accommodation facilities in different States. Under this scheme, the State Government of Gujarat has already identified Dakor and Dwarka for the construction of a Yatri Niwas and a Yatrika respectively during Seventh Plan period.

(c) Promotion of beach tourism has been given a major thrust in the State of Gujarat during Seventh Plan period. Schemes for the development of beach resorts and way side facilities in the State have already been drawn up in this regard.

Fire in Hotel Siddhartha

175. SHRI F. M. KHAN:

SHRI SYED AHMAD HASHMI:

Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether a fire broke out in Hotel Siddhartha, a Five Star Hotel in New Delhi on the 23rd January, 1986;

(b) if so, what are the causes of the fire and the number of persons killed/injured as a result thereof; and

(c) whether any inquiry bas been conducted into the causes of fire and if so, what is the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT); (a) Yes, Sir.